

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 31-62.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A management interface hub mediating between a procurer of goods or services and providers of goods or services, wherein communication between said interface hub and said providers is via any one of a selection of communication methods.
2. (Original) The interface hub of claim 1 wherein all records relevant to the procurement of said goods or services are maintained on said interface hub databases.
3. (Original) The interface hub of claim 1 wherein said interface hub mediates between a plurality of procurers of goods or services, each one of said plurality of procurers obtaining goods or services from a set of providers offering similar product.
4. (Original) The interface hub of claim 1 wherein the choice of said providers is dictated by criteria other than price.
5. (Original) The interface hub of claim 1 wherein said communication methods between said providers and said interface hub may include:
 - (a) e-mail over the internet
 - (b) facsimile transmissions
 - (c) postal mail services
 - (d) internet pages
 - (e) telephone
 - (f) data connection
6. (Original) The interface hub of claim 1 wherein communication between said procurer of said goods or services and said interface hub is via an internet web site.
7. (Original) The interface hub of claim 6 wherein said communication between said procurer and said interface hub includes the transfer to said interface hub of orders for goods or services, said orders specifying a selected one of said providers.
8. (Original) The interface hub of claim 6 wherein said communication between said procurer and said interface hub includes the transfer to said interface hub of orders for goods or services, said orders specifying criteria for the selection of a selected one of said providers.

9. (Currently Amended) The interface hub of Claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~ wherein said communication between said interface hub and said procurer includes the transfer of data received from said providers, said data processed and formatted by said interface hub to conform to the requirements of said procurer, said data further presented for access by said procurer in digital form.

10. (Original) The interface hub of claim 9 wherein said orders are initiated by said procurer.

11. (Original) The interface hub of claim 9 wherein said orders are initiated by authorized agents of said procurer.

12. (Currently Amended) The interface hub of Claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~ wherein said interface hub includes a document processing facility adapted to the extraction of data from paper documents for entry into digital databases.

13. (Original) The interface hub of claim 12 wherein said interface hub is adapted to process said providers to become registered providers to said procurer.

14. (Original) The interface hub of claim 13 wherein registration permits access by said registered providers to specified areas of said databases maintained by said interface hub.

15. (Currently Amended) The interface hub of Claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 14~~ wherein said goods or services are in the form of data.

16. (Original) The interface hub of claim 15 wherein said interface hub is adapted to initiate payments to said providers in return for goods or services presented to said interface hub.

17. (Original) The interface hub of claim 15 wherein said interface hub is adapted to pay variable amounts according to criteria associated with response from provider and wherein said criteria include:-

- (a) speed of response
- (b) length of response
- (c) communication method

18. (Original) The interface hub of claim 17 wherein said database is provided with input protocols specific to said procurer and said providers.

19. (Currently Amended) The interface hub of Claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 18~~ wherein said providers communicate with said interface hub via said internet web site.

20. (Currently Amended) The interface hub of Claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 18~~ wherein said providers communicate with said interface hub via facsimile transmission.

21. (Currently Amended) The interface hub of Claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 18~~ wherein said providers communicate with said interface hub via postal mail service.

22. (Currently Amended) The interface hub of Claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 21~~ wherein said providers are paid for goods or services provided on presentation of invoice.

23. (Currently Amended) The management interface hub Claim 1 ~~of any of claims 1 to 22~~ wherein said hub is adapted to the collation of statistical data relating to the interactions between said hub, said procurers and said providers, said data providing for quality control, prevention of fraud and industry benchmarking of said interactions.

24. (Original) An intermediary procurement management hub adapted to the ordering, collection and preparation of formatted and homogenized data relevant to transactions between at least one procurer and one of a set of providers, wherein said providers are linked by a commonality of service offered to said one procurer.

25. (Original) The management hub of claim 24 wherein said commonality of service is that provided by General Practitioners and Specialists, and wherein said data includes Private Medical Attendant's Records requested by said procurer via said hub.

26. (Original) The management hub of claim 24 wherein said commonality of service is that provided by repair services to insurance companies, and wherein said data includes records relating to services requested by said procurer via said hub.

27. (Original) The management hub of claim 24 wherein said commonality of service is that provided by paramedical and pathology services.

28. (Original) The management hub of claim 24 wherein said commonality of service is that provided by repair services to insurance companies.

29. (Original) The management hub of claim 24 wherein said commonality of service is related to the provision of references in support of applications for employment made to said procurer.

30. (Original) The management hub of claim 24 wherein said commonality of service is related to the provision of labour to said procurer.

Claims 31-62 cancelled.